



News Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Civil War Tactics and Strategy program May 12 at Lincoln Presidential Museum

***First in a series for the Civil War Sesquicentennial that will cover
most of the war's major battles***

SPRINGFIELD – The first in a series of military history programs featuring the major battles of the Civil War will be held Thursday, May 12 at 7 p.m. in the Union Theater at the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Museum (ALPLM) in Springfield. The program is part of Illinois' observance of the 150th anniversary of the Civil War.

“Civil War Tactics and Strategy” will be presented by ALPLM historian Dr. Mark DePue and Illinois State Military Museum volunteers Jim Leinicke and Jim Patton. The power point presentation will feature maps, photographs and illustrations, as well as a presentation and discussion of Civil War firearms. A question and answer session will follow the presentation. The program is free and open to the public, but advance reservations are requested and can be made by calling (217) 558-8934.

This first of a series of sessions on the tactics and strategy of the Civil War will be a primer on understanding combat during the Civil War, suitable for the military history novice as well as the most ardent Civil War enthusiast. DePue will discuss the tactical and doctrinal background to the war, including European influences on the American way of war, the training and tactics of the early war, and how doctrine, tactics and strategy evolved during the war. Leinicke and Patton, experts on the period's firearms and weapons, will present and discuss several of the most important firearms of the war. DePue will conclude by analyzing the major campaigns and battles of the Civil War using the commonly-accepted principles of war, such as unity of command, objective, simplicity and surprise.

Other Civil War Sesquicentennial military history programs are scheduled at the Presidential Museum through 2015. A program on the First Battle of Bull Run will be held at 7 p.m. Thursday, August 18 at the Museum. The battles of Shiloh, Antietam and Fredericksburg will be covered in 2012; Chancellorsville, Vicksburg, Gettysburg, Chickamauga and Chattanooga in 2013; the Wilderness and Spotsylvania, Kennesaw Mountain and Atlanta, and Petersburg in 2014; and the pursuit to Appomattox and the surrender in 2015.

Visit www.presidentlincoln.org for more information about the Presidential Library's "Boys in Blue" exhibit, the Civil War-themed "Team of Rivals" exhibit at the Presidential Museum, and other events at the ALPLM.

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